

Plagiarism can be defined as submitting another person's ideas, words, images or data without giving that person credit or proper acknowledgment. In order to clarify what constitutes plagiarism, you should be aware that you have **committed plagiarism when you:**

- neglect to cite the use of phrases, quotes, or ideas that are not your own;
- paraphrase the work of another, even though you may have changed the words or arranged them differently;
- neglect to cite facts or data not considered common knowledge.

Other offenses that will be considered academically dishonest are:

- submitting a paper written for another class;
- submitting a paper from an essay service or agency
- submitting a paper by another person even though he/she may have given you permission to use it;
- copying homework
- forging the signature of a parent/guardian.

You should also note that plagiarism/cheating not only encompasses written work, but also computer data, research, musical scores, video programs and visual arts.

PLAGIARISM CONTRACT

I, _____, understand that plagiarism is dishonest, that it is cheating, that it is stealing, and that it constitutes theft and fraud.

I have been educated about the meaning of plagiarism and understand the terms "**plagiarism**," "**quotation**," "**paraphrase**," and "**source acknowledgment**."

I specifically know that copying words from the **internet** without crediting the source constitutes **plagiarism**.

I have learned ways to avoid **plagiarism** by always acknowledging the source of any borrowed passage, sentence, or key idea that I use in my own writing. I will put any published material copied from another source into quotation marks and acknowledge the author. If I **paraphrase** any published material, I will give credit to the author. If I am unsure if acknowledgment is needed I will ask a teacher.

I understand that if I **plagiarize** or engage in **academic dishonesty** despite this agreement, **I could face the following disciplinary consequences:**

- I understand that plagiarized work is subject to a 0 grade and that other disciplinary action may also be taken.
- My parent/guardian will be notified.
- A notice of the infraction may be placed in my permanent student record.
- My status in school organizations may be suspended or revoked.

I am aware of the serious nature of plagiarism and will not intentionally use or submit someone else's work as my own.

Signature _____ **Date** _____

I have read this contract and understand the consequences of **plagiarism**, and will support **Tantasqua Regional Junior High** in maintaining an honest, academic environment.

Parent/Guardian _____ **Date** _____